

HELLO BABY! CELEBRATION BANNERS

BY JOANN CONNOLLY



LET EVERYONE KNOW HOW HAPPY YOU ARE TO WELCOME YOUR NEW LITTLE ONE INTO THE WORLD. LET THIS CELEBRATION BANNER SPELL IT OUT FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO SEE! PERFECT OVER A CRIB, ON A DOOR, IN A DOORWAY, THIS BANNER SAYS IT ALL.

EMBROIDERY PRODUCTS

Embroidery digitizing and/or editing software (I used Bernina Designer Plus V5 software)

Free Garden of Daisies design files available at www.dzgns.com

Design measures 6" x 7"

MATERIALS

For each pennant:

Tear-away stabilizer big enough for hoop
Two 7" x 8" pieces of heavy-weight cut-away stabilizer (I used tear-away stabilizer for the top-most layer because I like its "papery" look. Mid-weight cut-away could also be used.)

3" x 3 1/2" piece of cotton fabric for appliquéd letter

EMBROIDERY THREAD

Bobbin thread or pre-wound bobbin
Temporary spray adhesive
Rotary cutter with pinking blade
Craft knife or small, sharp scissors
Clear ruler

For entire banner:

2 yards of decorative ribbon

STEP 1. AT THE COMPUTER

Go to www.dzgns.com and download the free designs. Send the designs to the machine.

STEP 2. EMBROIDERY

Hoop tear-away stabilizer. Place the hoop in machine. Slide the two 7" x 8" pieces of stabilizer under the hoop, making sure they stay centered. Stitch the first two colors – the outline and dotted border. Sew the third color – the placement outline for the appliqué fabric. Spray the wrong side of the appliqué fabric with temporary adhesive. Adhere the appliqué fabric to the hooped stabilizer covering the stitched outline. Sew the fourth color – the appliqué tack-down stitching. Remove the hoop from the machine but do not remove the fabric and stabilizer from the hoop. Trim the appliqué fabric to



approximately 1/16" around the tack-down stitching. Place the hoop back in the machine and sew the next color change – the satin-stitch outline. Sew the remaining colors to complete the flowers.

STEP 3. FINISHING TOUCHES

Remove the project from the hoop. Using a clear ruler and rotary cutter, trim around each side of the pennant, approximately 3/16" away from outline stitching. Using a craft knife (or small, sharp scissors) make a diagonal cut in each upper corner of the pennant wide enough to accommodate ribbon. Lace the ribbon through the slits, leaving enough ribbon at each end to hang the banner.

OPTIONS:

To make the pennants using a fashion fabric

Center and adhere a 7" x 8" piece of fashion fabric to the stabilizer prior to sewing the first color. Proceed with steps as outlined above, using a coordinating fabric for the letter appliqué.

To make pennants that are lined:

If you prefer to hang the banner where the backs of the pennants can be seen, such as in a doorway or window, you can line them as follows:

After sewing the complete design as outlined above, remove the hoop from machine but do not remove the project from hoop. Spray a 7" x 8" piece of coordinating fabric with temporary adhesive. Adhere the fabric to the back of the hooped pennant, covering all stitching. Carefully place the hoop back in machine, keeping the lining fabric smooth. Sew color #1 again – this is the straight-stitched outline. Remove the hoop from machine and remove project from hoop. Continue as above for trimming and finishing the banner.

The complete alphabet of the appliqué letters used in this project is available at www.gardenofdaisies.com. (Please note that editing software is necessary to insert these letters into the free pennant designs.)



JoAnn Connolly started her company, Garden of Daisies Embroidery, 7 years ago when her youngest daughter began Irish step dancing. Her company specializes in the design and production of Irish step dancing competition costumes. She also provides design, digitizing, embroidery, and appliqué services for other dressmakers in the Irish dance costuming industry.

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